

**Application No.:** 10/554,075  
**Filing Date:** September 6, 2006

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please amend the specification at page 25, lines 4-10 as follows:**

Once the tube exits the austenitic furnace, it is immediately subjected to exterior-interior tempering in a tub where the ~~tempering~~ quenching agent is water. The ~~tempering~~ quenching should take place in a tube which allows for the rotation of the tube while it is immersed in water, in order to obtain a homogeneous structure throughout the body of the tube preferentially. At the same time, an automatic alignment of the tube with respect to the injection nozzle of water also allows for better compliance with the planned objectives.